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A STUDY TO DETERMINE A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FLYING HOURS AND FLYING PROFICIENCY FOR THE KC-135A/Q AIRCRAFT

William M. Henggeler, et al

Air Force Institute of Technology !!right-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

August 1975

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The United States Air Force's operational readiness posture is a function of flying proficiency. Flying time is an important factor in achieving and maintaining an optimal level of flying proficiency This study attempted to measure the effect of flying hour reductions (resulting from energy conservation and fuel reduction programs) on flying proficiency in order to determine if a statistical correlation can be applied for use as a predictor of flying proficiency as a function of flying time. This study was primarily concerned with the KC-135A/Q aircraft which are in operational use in the Strategic Air Command's 8th and 15th numbered Air Forces. The study encompassed the time period from January, 1973 through June, 1974 in order to provide a comparison of proficiency analysis before flying hours were significantly reduced and after their reduction. The study did not determine any statistically significant effect on flying proficiency. methodology and analysis of this study could be used to generate future studies on all types of aircraft, and, therefore, extend the analysis to the effects of flying time on proficiency throughout the Air Force.

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A STUDY TO DETERMINE A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FLYING HOURS AND FLYING PROFICIENCY FOR THE KC-135A/Q AIRCRAFT

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A STUDY TO DETERMINE A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FLYING HOURS AND FLYING PROFICIENCY FOR THE KC-135A/Q AIRCRAFT

A Thesis

Presented to the Faculty of the School of Systems and Logistics of the Air Force Institute of Technology

Air University

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Logistics Management

By

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August 1975

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This thesis, written by

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has been accepted by the undersigned on behalf of the faculty of the School of Systems and Logistics in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Statement of the Problem

Historically, it has been assumed that one of the major factors influencing the flying proficiency of pilots is the amount of time that they fly (10; 26). Currently, the major commands determine the number of flying hours required for each pilot (18:3-1). Through the use of flying, written, and simulator evaluations as well as Operational keadiness Inspection, competition meet, and training exercise results, the commands measure whether or not the desired level of proficiency is being maintained (26). There are various factors which affect the amount of flying hours available to the units. Some examples of these factors are the number of operationally ready aircraft, the logistical support for these aircraft (manpower and materiel) and the number of dollars (budget) available to procure and maintain the aircraft systems and logistical support (24: 1-1). Whenever any of these factors have limited the allocation of flying hours to the units, they have been considered constraints to flying proficiency. A major logistical support factor which has become a constraint

to the number of available flying hours is the availability of aviation fuels (3).

Sixty-five percent (65%) of the Department of Defense's petroleum supply is allocated to the support of aircraft operations. More significantly, the United States Air Force (USAF) uses ninety percent (90%) of its petroleum for aircraft operations (2). When there has been a significant decrease in the availability of fuel, flying hours have been decreased (3). Recently, the USAF flying hours were decreased as a result of the oil embargo in the fall of 1973 (1). Research is needed to determine the relationship between a decrease in flying hours and pilot proficiency.

Definition of Terms

<u>Aircraft Incident</u> - a mishap involving an aircraft that results in damage less than minor (20).

<u>Combat Evaluation Group (CEVG) Evaluation</u> - an evaluation of pilots in Strategic Air Command (SAC) units conducted on a notice or no-notice basis by highly qualified instructor pilots of the First Combat Evaluation Group (22:2-1).

Conditionally Qualified or Qualified with Additional

Training - a member, unit, or an organization that demonstrated marginal performance or knowledge of procedures,
techniques, or directives. However, such activity did not
adversely affect the successful completion of the mission
(22:6-1).

Major Aircraft Accident - the aircraft is destroyed or receives substantial damage in which the total direct manhours to replace the damaged component(s) equals or exceeds the manhours set for the aircraft by AFR 127-4, Investigating and Reporting US Air Force Accidents and Incidents, Attachment 6 (20).

Minc Aircraft Accident - the aircraft has less than substantial damag;, but in which the total direct manhours to replace the damaged component(s) equals or exceeds the manhours set for the aircraft by AFR 127-4, Attachment 6 (20).

Operational Readiness Inspection - an inspection designed to periodically measure combat units performance and capability to accomplish its mission under simulated combat conditions (21).

<u>Proficiency</u> - a level of training and/or attainment that requires the student to demonstrate satisfactorily a capability and/or skill to accomplish a training item without further instruction (19:1-2).

Qualified - a member, unit, or an organization that demonstrated satisfactory performance or knowledge of procedures, techniques, or directives that would insure the successful completion of the mission (22:6-1).

Stratified Sample - a sampling technique where the universe is divided into groups to create homogeneous categories with respect to a particular characteristic(s)

under investigation (7:338).

Unit Standardization/Evaluation - a check administered by the local standardization section for the purpose of observing techniques of mission planning, briefing, and execution of a unit mission profile (22:2-6).

Unqualified - a member, unit, or an organization that demonstrated unacceptable performance or knowledge of procedures, techniques, or directives that would adversely affect the successful completion of the mission (22:6-1).

Background

The basic doctrine of the United States Air Force is founded on the principles that are necessary to the support of national objectives during peacetime and during periods of conflict (24:1-1). Military power is an instrument used to support the national objectives.

For military power to be pertinent as an instrument for national policy, the national leadership must be confident that it is effective, appropriate, and manageable [24:1-1].

The measure of effectiveness of the aerospace force used most often is that of destructiveness (24:1-1). The ability to evaluate destructiveness during peacetime is limited. Other methods of measuring the effectiveness of the force have been realized and are substituted for destructiveness to determine the state of readiness of the Air Force to support national objectives. One of the major areas in effectiveness measurement is the proficiency

of the individuals in the force (18:4-1; 22:1-1). A primary concern of this paper is the proficiency of pilots.

methods of determining pilot effectiveness. The program is established to provide scores on written, oral and flight evaluations which are designed to measure individual flying abilities (18:4-11). These scores are used as samples of the force capability to achieve combat objectives, i.e., destructiveness. A pilot may be qualified, conditionally qualified, or unqualified (18:Ch.4).

Another method for determining the effectiveness of the Air Force is the ratio of flying hours to the number of major flying aircraft accidents, to the number of minor flying aircraft accidents, and to the number of aircraft incidents. Those accidents and incidents that are pilot attributable, in part or in whole, are used in determining pilot effectiveness (5; 26).

Operational Readiness Inspections (ORI) are a third measurement of the capabilities of a unit and its personnel to achieve mission effectiveness. Because of the broad scope of the ORI evaluation, ORI deficiencies may be limited to those that are attributable to pilot effectiveness (5; 26).

By collecting, weighting, and evaluating the results of these criteria and other criteria (ie experience of the aircrew force and violations of Federal Aviation Regulations 26), the overall pilot effectiveness may be determined. In addition, a minimum pilot proficiency standard can be established from these results.

To maintain these minimum standards which allow the immediate and successful completion of the mission, continuous training programs are established by the major commands (18:2-3). The programs outline various training policies and instructions used in maintaining the minimum standards. Also minimum requirements and the instructions for their completion are established.

The minimum number of flying hours for each pilot is one of the requirements established by AFM 60-1, Flight Management Policies, and by the flight training manuals of the major commands. The failure of an individual to complete a requirement requires a review of his effectiveness status (18:Ch.3).

program was affected during the fall of 1973 due to the oil embargo (3). The "energy crisis", as this period was called, first led to what some energy experts thought to be only a short-term cutback in USAF flying during the crisis period (3). It became apparent that the "crisis" could not be solved immediately and could last indefinitely, creating a serious problem. For the first time in this Nation's history, a great deal of uncertainty existed concerning the Nation's future fuel resources, their location and quantity (14). In the face of this uncertainty, various voluntary and regulatory programs have been and are being evaluated.

One Federal program which has been instituted is the Energy Conservation Program (3). This program has strongly affected the Department of Defense and the Air Force.

The Department of Defense's Energy Conservation

Program has established an overall conservation goal of

fifteen percent (15%) reduction of energy consumption for

Fiscal Year 1974 and is programmed to continue through

Fiscal Year 1975 (3). The reduction rate is taken by

using Fiscal Year 1973 as the base period to which the

fifteen percent (15%) reduction will be applied.

As a result of these programmed reductions, the USAF flying hours have also been reduced (3). The actual flying hour reductions are not uniformly applied to the Air Force commands; each command has effected a flying hour reduction within a range of five to fifteen percent (5-15%) (3).

Relevance

This research attempted to determine if there has been a change in flying proficiency due to reductions in flying hours.

The evaluation of a change in flying proficiency is relevant and essential in determining adequate support of the national objectives. If resulting changes in flying proficiency become detrimental to the support of the national objectives, then one or more of the following actions could be considered.

- 1. To reallocate fuel among all users within the Nation to maintain the required proficiency.
 - 2. To reevaluate the proficiency standards.
- To increase utilization of the available flying time for proficiency.
- 4. To emphasize non-flying craining techniques,i.e., simulators in support of maintaining proficiency.

Scope

In order to determine if there is a relationship between the proficiency of a pilot and the number of flying hours, pilots assigned to the Strategic Air Command's (SAC's) 6th and 15th Numberea Air Forces were selected as subjects for the research. When this study was initiated SAC's two numbered Air Forces were designated 2nd Air Force and 15th Air Force. During this study 2nd Air Force was redesignated 8th Air Force. Thus in this study, the current designations of SAC's two numbered Air Forces will be 8th and 15th Air Forces. The type of aircraft flown by the subject pilots is the KC-135 "Stratotanker." In choosing the Strategic Air Command and the KC-135 consideration was given to the availability of statistical data from the numbered Air Forces (4; 9; 10; 11; 12). In order to effect an accurate study of the relationship between proficiency and flying hours, SAC's KC-135s were selected because they experienced a significant cutback (26%) during the period Fiscal Year 1973 and 1974 (3).

Objective

The objective of this study was to evaluate the relationship, if any, of reduced flying hours for KC-135 aircraft on the proficiency of KC-135 pilots. This evaluation provided a measurement of the dependence of KC-135 pilot proficiency on the actual flying hours used by the pilots.

Research Hypothesis

The proficiency of KC-135 pilots will exhibit a difference when flying hours are decreased as evidenced by differences in flying evaluation ratings.

CHAPTER II

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Universe Description

General. Air Force pilots may be classified according to the major command to which they are assigned. In the Strategic Air Command (SAC), three major types of categories are used (22; 17:45).

The first category contains pilots flying bomber type aircraft. B-52 pilots flying heavy bombers and those pilots flying medium bombers (FB-111) are in this category.

In the second category are pilots flying reconnaissance type aircraft. This category includes propeller driven aircraft as well as jet aircraft. Also listed in the reconnaissance category are pilots flying RC-135, EC-135, and KC-135R type aircraft.

In the last category are the air refueling pilots. This category consists of two types of pilots; those pilots flying the KC-135A and those flying the KC-135Q.

In SAC, the concepts and policies used for training and maintaining pilots at an assigned proficiency level are broken out according to these three categories. Thus the proficiency requirements for a KC-135A/Q pilot are not the same as those for a KC-135R pilot and therefore the KC-135R

pilots will not be included in the study.

Universe of Pilots to be Studied. In this research the pilot universe to which inference was made for hypothesis testing was limited to the KC-135A/Q pilots assigned to Strategic Air Command during the period from January, 1973 through June, 1974. The KC-135 aircraft include 615 aircraft divided up into thirty-eight squadrons (18:45). A small group of KC-135 pilots has been excluded from this study. This excluded group included the special mission tankers, and reconnaissance models, and the KC-135R. In addition to affording a large sample for research, the KC-135A/Q pilots are all evaluated at unit and command level by the same testing standards (22). This research infers to the universe of KC-135A/Q pilots assigned to SAC during the period from January, 1973 through June, 1974.

Population

In order to test the research hypothesis and to accomplish the objective of this thesis, the universe of KC-135A/Q pilots was divided into two populations. The KC-135A/Q pilots who flew during the period January through June, 1973 were one population and the KC-135A/Q pilots who flew during the period January through June, 1974 were the second population. The total number of actual and programmed flying hour: for the KC-135A/Q was different in each population. Table 1 is the distribution of KC-135

flying hours by fiscal year (3).

PROGRAMMED AND ACTUAL KC-135 FLYING HOURS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 1973 AND FISCAL YEAR 1974

FISCAL YEAR	PROGRAM	ACTUAL	PCT CHANGE BETWEEN PROGRAM	PCT CHANGE BETWEEN ACTUAL
73	330,326	331,884		
74	245,693	229,629	-26%	-31%

Source: Energy Management Division, Headquarters USAF.

Each population contained pilots from the 8th Air

Force and from the 15th Air Force. The KC-135A/Q pilots from
the 8th and 15th numbered Air Forces were combined to form
one large sample group which was used to test the hypothesis.

However, prior to combining the KC-135A/Q pilots from the
8th and 15th Air Forces, a test was performed on each
numbered Air Force to check for possible bias differences.

The following section describes the purpose and methodology
of this test.

Testing the Sample Groups (8th and 15th Air Forces)

In order to assure a sufficiently large sample from which to test the research hypothesis, data from two SAC numbered Air Forces were used. Prior to combining the data

ence check was performed on each numbered Air Force.

Bias difference is defined as a sample whose mean is not normally distributed with the population mean. The bias tested, was the difference between the mean flying hours per unit in the population, SAC's KC-135A/Q units, and the mean flying hours per unit in each sample group, 8th and 15th Air Forces' KC-135A/Q units, during the period from January, 1973 through June, 1974. Furthermore, the comparisons of mean flying hours per unit were made for each of the two population periods, January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974. The comparisons used the information symbolically identified in Table 2.

TABLE 2

MEAN (AVERAGE) FLYING HOUR COMPARISON

Flying Hours Per Unit	SAC KC-135A/Q Units SACB	before) - Jan - Jun 8th AF KC-135A/Q Units X B	1973 15th AF KC-135A/Q Units WB
Flying	Population A (after) - Jan - Jun	
Hours Per Unit	SACA	^X A	\bar{w}_{A}

The test which was performed on the mean differences was a paired comparison of the unit flying hours for the

January - June, 1973 period and the January - June, 1974 period. The actual differences were evaluated against a critical difference at a ten percent (10%) level of significance. The differences tested are described by the following questions:

1. Is the difference, if any, between the average number of flying hours per KC-135A/Q unit in 8th Air Force for the period January - June, 1973 and the average number of flying hours per KC-135A/Q unit in 8th Air Force for the period January - June, 1974 statistically significant? This question is symbolically represented as follows:

a.
$$H_0$$
: $\bar{X}_B = \bar{X}_A$ (No Difference)
b. H_1 : $\bar{X}_B \neq \bar{X}_A$ (Difference)

2. Is the difference, if any, between the average number of flying hours per KC-135A/Q unit in 15th Air Force for the period January - June, 1973 and the average number of flying hours per KC-135A/Q unit in 15th Air Force for the period January - June, 1974 statistically significant? This question is symbolically represented as follows:

a.
$$H_0$$
: $\overline{W}_B = \overline{W}_A$ (No Difference)
b. H_1 : $\overline{W}_B \neq \overline{W}_A$ (Difference)

If both 8th and 15th Air Forces are statistically significant, then the two groups, 8th and 15th Air Forces' units, would be combined to test the research hypothesis.

Symbolically, this would be represented by $\overline{SAC}_B \neq \overline{SAC}_A$; that is, there is a statistically significant difference in flying hours for KC-135 A/Q units in SAC between the January - June, 1973 period and the January - June, 1974 period. This check, therefore, was required in order to establish the premise on which the research hypothesis being tested was based; that is, that a flying hour decrease will affect flying proficiency.

The succeeding sections of this chapter which address the information requirements, and, the plan and analysis of the sample, show a breakout of the data by 8th and 15th Air Force. This breakout is not in conflict with the proposal to combine the two numbered Air Force groups. The distinction between the two groups was maintained until the bias check had been accomplished. The data collection, analysis and testing of the hypothesis sections do not reflect a separation of 8th and 15th Air Forces.

Information Requirements

The following research hypothesis was tested:

The proficiency of KC-135 pilots will exhibit a difference when flying hours are decreased as evidenced by differences in flying evaluation ratings.

To evaluate this hypothesis, an analysis was made of the flight evaluations exhibited in one population against the flight evaluations in the other population. The two

populations were previously defined as follows:

- 1. Population B (B for before) included January through June, 1973.
- 2. Population A (A for after) included January through June, 1974.

Pilot evaluation ratings are defined as one of two possible outcomes, qualified or unqualified. The variables qualified and unqualified have been previously defined as follows:

- 1. Qualified a member, unit or organization that demonstrated satisfactory performance or knowledge of procedures, techniques, or directives that would insure the successful completion of the mission (22:6-1).
- 2. <u>Unqualified</u> a member, unit, or an organization that demonstrated unacceptable performance or knowledge of procedures, techniques, or directives that would adversely affect the successful completion of the mission (22:6-1).

The evaluation ratings for each population consist of both unit standardization/evaluations (evaluations by unit standardization/evaluation personnel of pilots within the unit) and SAC standardization/evaluations by the Combat Evaluation Group (CEVG) (17). The overall mission of the CEVG is to "... provide for standardization/evaluation and bomb scoring programs and such contingency warfare support as may be assigned [17:10-8]." The standardization mission is performed by CEVG monitoring results of unit standardiza-

possible trends in weak and unsatisfactory areas.

Additionally, CEVG provides for standardization/evaluation within SAC by annual visits to all SAC units for the purpose of inspecting various components of the unit's standardization/evaluation program (15:43). In this research, the evaluation ratings from CEVG and the unit evaluations were combined for each unit. The combination of the evaluation ratings was justified because there is no difference

standardization personnel perform the evaluation and, in the other case, SAC personnel perform the evaluation.

Both levels of evaluation are accomplished using the same criteria (17). The evaluation ratings' results identified the percentage of pilots in each squadron who achieved a qualified score, thereby affording data at the ratio level.

in the evaluations except that in one case the local

The flying hour data was obtained from the two numbered Air Forces, 8th and 15th for each of the two population periods. The flying hour data was further broken out by units (as was previously noted, this is also the case with the evaluation rating data). This research made the assumption that the average flying hour per pilot in a unit could be calculated by averaging the unit data according to the number of pilots assigned. Therefore, the flying hour data identified the average flying hours flown by pilots within each unit.

The information collected is shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

FLYING HOUR AND EVALUATION RATING DATA

FOR POPULATION A AND POPULATION B*

Population	B (before) - J	an - Jun, 1973	
	8th AF	15th AF	
Flying Hours	x _{Bi} ·	W _{Bi}	
Eval. Ratings	Y _{Bi}	$\mathbf{z_{Bi}}$	
	A (after) - Ja		
Flying Hours	X _{Ai}	W _A í	
Flying Hours Eval. Ratings	X _{Ai} Y _{Ai}		

The variables shown in Table 3 are defined as follows:

1. For Population B (January through June, 1973). The explanation that follows will treat one of the two numbered Air Forces for purpose of simplicity. It should be noted that the same explanation to be given applies to both numbered Air Forces, the only difference being the symbols used for each Air Force.

- a. $X_{\rm Bi}$ is the independent variable for 8th Air Force in this population. This variable represents the flying hours during the January through June, 1973 period of the individual units in 8th Air Force.
- b. Y_{Bi} is the dependent variable for 8th Air Force in this population. This variable represents the evaluation ratings of individual pilots in 8th Air Force. Specifically, the variable identifies the percentage of pilots who achieved an unqualified evaluation rating.
- 2. Population A (January through June, 1974).

 The explanation that follows will treat one of the two numbered Air Forces for the purpose of simplicity. It should be noted that the same explanation to be given applies to both numbered Air Forces, the only difference being the symbols used for each Air Force.
- a. X_{Ai} is the independent variable for 8th Air Force in this population. This variable represents the flying hours during the January through June, 1974 period of individual units in 8th Air Force.
- b. YAi is the dependent variable for 8th Air Force in this population. This variable represents the evaluation ratings of individual pilots in 8th Air Force. Specifically, the variable identifies the percentage of pilots who achieved an unqualified evaluation rating.

Data Base

ments set forth in Strategic Air Command Manual (SACM)

51-8, Training Concepts, Policies, and Instructions - SAC

Units and Aircrews. Additionally, these units are evaluated in accordance with standards and procedures of SACM

60-4, Standardization Evaluation Program. The evaluation data, which were collected and operated on to obtain the information described above, is generated according to the guidelines set forth in SACM 60-4. The data from the evaluations were collected directly from the Combat Evaluation Group Headquarters. This headquarters collects and maintains both the CEVG and unit evaluation results for KC-135 pilots (10).

numbered Air Forces. The flying hour data were collected by the two population periods - Population B (January through June, 1973) and Population A (January through June, 1974) - and were listed by units. An average number of flying hours per pilot can be identified by taking the unit flying hours and dividing by the number of pilots per unit. The sampling technique and plan are presented in the following section of this proposal.

Sampling Technique

A preliminary pilot study was made based on flight evaluations obtained from randomly selected air refueling

units. Each of the units had varying reductions in the amount of flying time for the period January through June, 1974. Half of the units were from 8th Air Force and the other half were from 15th Air Force.

The purpose of the pilot study was to determine if an adequate number of flight evaluation observations were available from the units. Using as a guide 30 observations or more from the population (28), all the units in the pilot study had at least 70 flight evaluations. Thus, based on this pilot study, all units did provide a sufficient number of flight evaluations in order to perform the required analysis and test the research hypothesis.

while all units were acceptable based on the minimum number of flight evaluation observations, some of the units were not acceptable based on flying hours. The unacceptable units were not operating at their base of assignment but the units were split-up and dispersed on temporary duty overseas. These units did not have sufficient number of hours flown as intact units. Therefore, these units were excluded from the study.

Sampling Plan

The sampling process used in the research was based on stratified samples. A stratified sample divides the universe into homogeneous categories with respect to a particular characteristic(s) which are under investigation.

Thus, within a selected category, observations should be more similar to one another than those observations selected from different categories. Helmstadter (7:388) notes that an increase in precision is gained by using stratefied sampling through the use of homogeneous categories as opposed to a simple random sample. It should be noted that in a stratified sample, the number of observations selected from each of the categories is not always proportional to the population.

- 1. A listing of all the unit's flying evaluations of pilots and CEVG evaluations of pilots for the time periods of January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974 were obtained from the Combat Evaluation Group's Analysis and Special Projects Division. This provided a complete listing of all flight evaluations for the populations under consideration.
- 2. A listing of the flying hours flown for both time periods was collected at 8th and 15th Air Forces' Director of Training Divisions. The differences in the two listings of flying hours show the percentage decrease/increase in flying hours for each unit (for purposes of testing the hypothesis, this research made the assumption that a specified percentage decrease/increase in a unit, will be on the average, the same decrease/increase for pilots in the unit).

With the change in unit flying hours shown, these decreases/increases were divided into approximately 25

categories. All the units were categorized according to the respective percentage decrease/increase of flying hours (using approximately 25 categories) identified from the population period "before" and the population period "after."

Data Collection

The evaluation ratings and flying hours, identified by numbered Air Forces and by units (squadrons), were obtained from CEVG, 8th Air Force and 15th Air Force. The sampling technique and plan used have been previously described. This section of the plan describes the structuring of the data for the purpose of analysis and testing. The succeeding section will describe the design for testing the research hypothesis.

The sampling data collected were identified by the dependent and independent variables for each population.

After the sample was selected, the variables were grouped as shown in Table 4. The grouped data in Table 4 are defined as follows:

- 1. Column 1. The sample Y_{Bi} data are the dependent variables. This data represented the sample pilots' evaluacion ratings' results (percentage unqualified) for the period January through June, 1974.
- 2. Column 2. The sample YAi data are the dependent variables. This data represented the sample pilots' evaluation ratings' results (percentage unqualified) for the period January through June, 1974.

TABLE 4
GROUPING OF SAMPLE DATA*

c	(x _{Di}) ² (8)	(x _D) ²	(x _{D2}) ²	(x _{Di}) ²
Independent Variable	$(x_{Bi}^{-x_{Ai}})^{**} (x_{Di})^{2}$	x _{D1}	Х _{D2}	X _{Di}
Indeper	X _{Ai} (6)	XA1	х _{A2}	XAi
	X _{Bi}	XB1	ж В ₂	XBi
	${(\mathbf{x_{Di}})}^2$	(Y _{D1}) ²	(x _{D2}) ² .	$(x_{Di})^2$
Dependent Variable	$(Y_{Bi}^{-Y}_{Ai})^{**} = (Y_{Di})^{2}$ (3) (4)	$\mathbf{v_{p_1}}$	Y _{D2}	$^{ m Y}_{ m Di}$
Tonon	Yai (2)	YAI	х _{А2}	YAi
	YBi	YB1	YB2	YBi

The data presented above represents samples taken from both 8th and 15th Air Forces. This combination was predicated on a satisfactory bias check as described previously in the section on testing the sample groups.

** Column 3 represents Y_{Di} , Column 7 represents X_{Di} .

- 3. Column 3. Variable Y_{Di} represented the difference between Y_{Bi} and Y_{Ai}, showing the pilots' evaluation ratings' differences between the January through June, 1973 period and the January through June, 1974 period.
 - 4. Column 4. $(Y_{Di})^2$ is the square of Y_{Di} .
- 5. Column 5. The sample X_{Bi} data are the independent variables. This data represented the flying hours per unit for the period January through June, 1973.
- 6. Column 6. The sample X_{Ai} data are the independent variables. This data represented the flying hours per unit for the period January through June, 1974.
- 7. Column 7. X_{Di} represents the difference between X_{Bi} and X_{Ai} showing the difference between flying hours for each unit between the January through June, 1973 period and the January through June, 1974 period.
 - 8. Column 8. $(X_{Di})^2$ is the square of X_{Di} .

Data Analysis

The data analysis portion of the research utilized the data collected as described above. The process consisted of three major stages:

- 1. Purging of the invited sample,
- 2. Operating on data produced from the sample, and
- 3. Analysis of the accepted sample.

A brief description of each stage follows:

Purging the Invited Sample. The procedure was to examine the data relative to the criterion described in the section on sampling techniques. It was pointed out in that section that the preliminary study revealed that some of the data collected could not be used.

As was noted there, the only reason found which did invalidate the data was units not operating at their base assignment; instead, the units were split-up and dispersed on temporary duty overseas. These units did not have sufficient number of hours flown as intact units. The results of this stage of data analysis produced an accepted sample for each period of time being evaluated.

Additionally, as was noted in the section on testing the sample groups, the combination of data from 8th
and 15th Air Forces was predicated on a satisfactory bias
check.

Operating on the Accepted Sample. This procedure consisted of several stages. First, for a combined 8th and 15th AF sample, as shown in Table 4, measures of the independent and dependent variables were gathered, the differences between the dependent variables for each of the two periods was calculated, and the differences between the independent variables for each of the two periods was also calculated (see columns 3 and 7, Table 4). The next step was to calculate the sum of the above referenced columns. Additionally, a quantity n was calculated.

Quantity n equals the number of observations or i. These calculations were used to perform a paired comparison test and to perform a regression analysis.

Analysis of the Accepted Sample

The first operation performed was that of using a "paired comparison" test on the average flying hour difference and on the average flying proficiency difference for the two populations, the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period. It was assumed that the two samples used were independent.

This means that each sample is representative of a different population and the values obtained in one sample do not predetermine the values obtained in the other sample [27:106].

The research was not primarily concerned with obtaining the exact value of the mean flying hour or the exact value of the mean flying proficiency of either population. Rather the major area of interest was to reasonably suppose that the mean flying hour and the mean proficiency of the 1973 time period were not the same as the mean flying hour and the mean proficiency of the 1974 period.

Thus the question concerns the mean of the differences between the <u>before</u> period, 1973 and the <u>after</u> period, 1974 for both flying hours and flying proficiency. It was necessary to calculate the standard error of the estimate of the differences. The true values for the variances of the

populations were unknown to the researchers. Therefore the student's t distribution was used in place of the z statistic.

Also, from the operation on the data described above, a sample correlation coefficient was derived. An analysis of the statistical significance of the data, using the correlation coefficient, R, gave an immediate picture of how closely the two variables move together (27:Ch.14). The coefficient of determination, R², was also computed. This coefficient, R², showed the proportion of the total variation explained by fitting the independent variable, flying hours, in a regression model on the dependent variable, evaluation ratings (27:ch.14). They do serve as indices of the relationship between the two research variables. Additionally, the regression coefficient of the independent variable, B, and the standard error of the regression coefficients, S_{n} , were calculated. These calculations will be further described in the following section.

Testing the Research Hypothesis

The research hypothesis tested was:

The proficiency of KC-135 pilots will exhibit a difference when flying hours are decreased as evidenced by differences in flying evaluation ratings.

First it was necessary to verify a decrease in flying hours from January through June, 1973 to January through

June, 1974. This was validated by evaluating the mean difference flying hours, using the paired comparison test described in the previous section. Note that this mean difference for the independent variable was represented by the symbol \bar{x}_{Di} .

Next was the formulation of a linear regression model based on the Gauss-Markov theorem of Least Squares Estimators (25:Chap.12). In the regression it was necessary to calculate the fixed variable and the variable coefficient of the independent variable X_{Di}. The equation estimated was:

$$Y_D = A + BX_D$$
.

A is the fixed variable and B is the coefficient of the independent variable. As was stated previously, the coefficient of determination, R², was calculated. R² is the proportion of the total variation in Y explained by fitting the regression. It is a dimensionless index of the explained variation to the total variation (27:342). Also, as was previously noted in the section on analysis of the accepted sample, the standard error of the regression coefficient was calculated. This calculation will be used to perform an individual test on the regression coefficient (t test).

A necessary step in testing the regression model was the t test on the significance of the regression coefficient. This will be a two-tailed test using a ten

percent (10%) level of significance. The test hypothesis was of the form:

$$B_i = 0$$
 $B_i = coefficient of the independent variable $B_i \neq 0$$

The test was an evaluation of a t sample value calculated by using the regression coefficient, B, and the standard error of the regression coefficient, S_B ; where t sample = $\frac{B}{S_B}$. The t sample was compared to a t critical value taken from the Standard Mathematical Tables. If t sample was greater than t critical, the null hypothesis would be rejected. If the null hypothesis is rejected, then the independent variable X_{Di} could be used as a measure of Y and the inference would be that there was a positive relationship between the independent variable, flying hours, and the dependent variable, proficiency (8; 27).

The final step was the calculation of a probability value using the calculated t sample. The probability value indicates the expected risk taken when the null hypothesis is rejected (27:189-192).

Assumptions

1. The time periods (January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974) were of sufficient length to yield valid data pertaining to the objective of this study. This assumption was based on the requirement for

- a statistically significant decrease in flying hours. The "energy crisis" in the fall of 1973 brought about a significant decrease in the flying hours allotted to KC-135A/Q.
- 2. The samples from the two populations were not biased by the exclusion of those observations described in the sampling technique section and were random variables.
- 3. The data collected were assumed to be valid.

 This assumption was based on the methodology used in the gathering and processing of the data.
- 4. The unit evaluations and CEVG evaluations for all of the squadrons were considered to be strictly objective. This assumption is based on SACM 60-4, Standardization/Evaluation Program.

Limitations

- 1. The relationships derived from the research will apply only to KC-135A/Q pilots during the periods

 January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974.
- 2. The relationships derived from the research may be caused by other variables that were unknown at the time of the experiment.

CHAPTER III

DATA SCREENING AND ANALYSIS

Data Screening

In the section entitled "Sampling Technique" in the previous chapter, one reason for elimination of certain data was described. As was noted there, data were invalidated for certain entire units not operating at their base of assignment during some part of the time period included in this research; also, at least one unit was not actively assigned to 8th Air Force during the 1973 period of this research. Additionally, data for individual crew members, which includes their flying time while deployed to such locations as Torrejon Air Base, Spain and Eielson Air Base, Alaska, were not used because the flying time did not reflect 8th Air Force or 15th Air Force flying time.

Those units assigned to Castle Air Force Base, the 93rd Air Refueling and the 924th Air Refueling Squadrons, were not considered as part of this research. The reason for their exclusion was that Castle Air Force Base is the KC-135 combat crew training base and as such includes many student pilots. In order to avoid bias to the data, it was

decided to distinguish between student pilots and nonstudent pilots. However, for Castle Air Force Base it was not possible to distinguish the flying hours for the nonstudent pilots from those of the student pilots, therefore, the data from Castle Air Force Base were excluded in its entirety.

Additionally, while the KC-135A/Q aircraft are flown at Offutt Air Force Base, their function is to support pilot training for those pilots who are assigned to the 55th Strategic Wing. This wing's mission deals with the EC-135 and thus KC-135 A/Q are used solely for training purposes. Therefore, the data from this unit were not considered part of the research.

Hypothesis Testing and Significance Level

In evaluating a hypothesis, a major area of concern is accepting the operational statement of the research hypothesis (H₁) with some degree of confidence so that the null hypothesis (H₀) is not erroneously rejected. The probability of being wrong in rejecting the null hypothesis is called Type I error, and the probability of committing this error, p, is equal to the significance level (A) for which the hypothesis is tested (12:9). Thus to accept H₁ for a specified level of significance, it is necessary to reject H₀ and to prove that the probability of rejecting H₀ in error is less than the specified significance level.

For all of the hypothesis testing in this research a significance level of .10 was selected as stated previously. Thus the intent of the researchers was to reject the null hypothesis and accept the research hypothesis with a ten percent or less chance of being wrong in rejecting the null hypothesis. A researcher may be willing to accept a higher probability of committing a Type I error in an effort to reduce the probability of committing a Type II error (probability of being wrong in accepting the null hypothesis) if the researcher will increase the level of significance in evaluating the data (12:9).

Paired Comparison Test - Flying Hours

The initial step necessary to complete the research was to establish a significant statistical decrease in flying hours for the two populations - the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period. The manner in which this was done was by performing a paired comparison test on 8th Air Force's flying hours and a paired comparison test on 15th Air Force's flying hours. The following statistics were calculated

8th Air		15th Air Force			
Flying Hours Difference		Flying Hours Difference			
D̄ _i =	224.82	$\bar{D}_{i} = 190.88$			
S _D =	487.31	$S_{D} = 319.23$			
n =	11	n = 8			

*NOTE: X_{Di} of Table 4 is the same as D_i used in this section.

The hypothesis tested was whether or not a conclusion could be made that a significant decrease was observed between the 1973 period and the 1974 period. The hypothesis was tested at a .10 level of significance. The hypothesis is presented as:

$$H_0: B \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} A$$

$$H_1: B \rightarrow A$$

Thus if ${\rm H_0}$ is accepted as being true, then there would be no decrease between the 1973 and 1974 populations with respect to flying hours. If ${\rm H_1}$ is accepted as being true, then there is a decrease between the 1973 population and the 1974 population with respect to flying hours.

To test the null hypothesis, the critical difference, \bar{D}_{C} , was calculated as follows:

$$\overline{D}_C = \emptyset \pm t \frac{S_D}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Where S_{D} was the standard error of the estimate of the difference between the two means, and was calculated as follows:

$$s_{D} = \left[\frac{\sum D_{i}^{2} - \bar{D} \sum D_{i}}{n-1} \right]^{1/2}$$

Where n was the number of pairs used in making the test.

The results of the paired comparison tests are as follows:

1.415

8th Air Force Flying Hours Difference	15th Air Force Flying Hours Difference		
D _i = 224.82	$\bar{D}_{i} = 190.88$		
$\bar{D}_{C} = 201.59$	$\bar{D}_{C} = 170.73$		

1.372

Because the difference, \bar{D}_1 , which was calculated for both 8th and 15th Air Forces was more than the critical difference value, \bar{D}_C , there is a statistical basis for rejecting the null hypothesis. Therefore, this was interpreted as saying that evidence indicates that the flying hour averages of the two time periods are not the same and gives an indication that a real decrease did exist between the two time periods.

As was stated previously, 8th Air Force and 15th Air Force would be combined if both showed a statistical decrease. As a result of the paired comparison test, the two numbered Air Forces were grouped together and were treated as such for the remaining statistical tests and evaluations.

Paired Comparison Test - Proficiency

A paired comparison test was used to determine if a significant statistical difference in proficiency existed between the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period.

Because of the structuring of this test, the difference in proficiency which might be indicated could be the result of an improvement or a decline in proficiency. If a difference was statistically significant then a further test can

determine if the difference was attributable to an increase or decrease in proficiency. The following statistics were calculated:

Proficiency Difference

*
$$\bar{D}_{i}$$
 = .9356
 S_{D} = 3.2125

*NOTE: Y_{Di} of Table 4 is the same as D_i used in this section.

The hypothesis tested was whether or not a conclusion could be made that a significant difference was observed between the 1973 period and the 1974 period. The hypothesis was tested at a .10 level of significance. The hypothesis is presented as:

$$H_{O} : \mathcal{U}_{B} - \mathcal{U}_{A} = \emptyset$$

Thus if ${\rm H_O}$ is accepted as being true, then the 1973 population and the 1974 population are not different with respect to proficiency. If ${\rm H_1}$ is accepted as being true, then the 1973 population and the 1974 population are different with respect to proficiency.

The results of the paired comparison test are as follows:

Proficiency Test

 $\bar{D}_{1} = .9356$

 $\bar{D}_{C} = 1.3175$

t = 1.740

Because the difference, $\bar{\mathbf{D}}_{\mathbf{i}}$, which was calculated was less than the critical difference value, $\bar{\mathbf{D}}_{\mathbf{C}}$, there is no statistical basis for rejecting the null hypothesis. Therefore, this was interpreted as saying that the evidence indicates that the proficiency levels of the two time periods are the same and gives indication that no real difference in proficiency did exist between the two time periods.

The Chi-Square Test - Proficiency

A parametric statistical test is a test which specifies certain restrictions about the population parameters. For example, some of the student t test's restrictions are that the observations be independent, the observations be drawn from normally distributed populations, and the observations have the same variance. Since these restrictions are not usually tested, they are assumed to be true. Thus the meaningfulness of the parametric test depends upon the assumptions holding true.

A non-parametric statistical test is a test which does not specify certain restrictions about the population

parameters. There are certain assumptions associated with most non-parametric tests but these assumptions are fewer and much weaker than those of the parametric tests. The non-parametric tests do not require measurements as strong as that of the parametric test. The parametric test requires measurement on at least the interval scale while the non-parametric may apply to the nominal scale (13:Ch.3).

The paired comparison test for proficiency was considered to be a parametric statistical test. Thus the restrictions of the paired comparison test were assumed to have been met by the researchers. In an effort to reduce the restrictions and assumptions, the researchers performed a non-parametric statistical test, a Chi-Square test.

termine the significance of difference between the proficiency of the 1973 population and the 1974 population. For the purpose of explaining the Chi-Square test in determining if the 1973 population and 1974 population differ with respect to proficiency, proficiency is defined, the null and research hypothesis are stated, and the level of significance is established.

U = an evaluation in which the pilot demonstrated unacceptable performance or knowledge of procedures, techniques, or directives
that would have adversely affected the
successful completion of the mission.

- Q = an evaluation in which the pilot demonstrated satisfactory performance or knowledge of procedures, techniques, or directives that would insure the successful completion of the mission.
- B = an evaluation in which the pilot demonstrated his level of proficiency during the January to June, 1973 time period.
- A = an evaluation in which the pilot demonstrated his level of proficiency during the January to June, 1974 time period.
- H_O = the proficiency as exemplified by the percent of unqualified (U) for the 1973 time period equals the proficiency as exemplified by the percent of unqualified (U) for the 1974 time period p(U/B) = p(U/A).
- H₁ = the proficiency as exemplified by the percent of unqualified (U) for the 1973 time period does not equal the proficiency as exemplified by the percent of unqualified (U) for the 1974 time period p(U/B) ≠ p(U/A).

م = .10.

Thus if H_O is accepted as being true, then the 1973 population and the 1974 population are not different with respect to proficiency. If H_1 is accepted as being true, then the 1973 population and the 1974 population are

different with respect to proficiency. The following is a contingency table for the observed values.

 o_{ij}

		В	A		
П	I	176	11 195	371	
Q	111	3111	IV 4009	7120	
		3287	4204		7491

The numbers to the right and below the table are the observed number of evaluations from the sample that apply to each of the events as described above and to the left of the table. Thus there were 371 unqualified evaluations and 7120 qualified evaluations. There were 3287 evaluations in the 1973 time period and 4204 evaluations in the 1974 time period. The total number of evaluations for the two time periods was 7491. The total number of qualified and unqualified evaluations was 7491 which must match the total number of evaluations for the total number of evaluations.

The following is a contingency table for the expected values

Eij

	В	A	
	I	II	
Ц	162.79	208.21	371
	III	1 V	
Q	3124.21	3995.79	7120
	3287	4204	7491

The numbers that border the table remain the same as those in the observed contingency table. The expected values for each cell were computed as follows:

In a 2 \times 2 table there is only one degree of freedom (df) for the Chi-Square value; that is, to determine df=(r-1)·(k-1), where r is the number of rows and k is the number of columns in the contingency table (12:105). A limitation is placed on a Chi-Square with only one degree of

freedom where each individual expected cell value must be at least five (12:46).

A Chi-Square value with one degree of freedom is depicted as X₁²; a Chi-Square critical value with a level of significance of .10 and one degree of freedom is depicted as CRIT. X₁². If the Chi-Square value of the sample, X₁² is greater than the Chi-Square critical value, CRIT. X₁², then the null hypothesis (H_O) can be rejected. Thus if the computed Chi-Square value of the sample exceeds the Chi-Square critical value, a difference with respect to proficiency for the 1973 population and 1974 population can be inferred at a level of significance of .10.

The calculation of the Chi-Square value of the sample was accomplished by the following formula:

where O_{ij} = the number of cases categorized in the ith
row of the jth columns of the <u>observed</u>
contingency table.

E_{ij} = the number of cases categorized in the ith
row of jth column of the expected contingency table.

O_{ij} ~ E_{ij} the absolute value of the difference.

.5 = the continuity correction for a Chi-Square
with one degree of freedom.

The X_1^2 of the sample equaled 1.36. This value did not exceed the Chi-Square critical value, CRIT. X_1^2 of 2.71. Thus the null hypothesis could not be rejected. Therefore, it can be inferred that proficiency of the 1973 group is equal to the proficiency for the 1974 group.

The Purposes of Regression Analysis

A purpose of the study was to determine if a relationship existed between proficiency of the KC-135 pilots and
flying hours. If a mathematical model could predict this
relationship, the model would be of significant value to
the Air Force. In order to develop such a model, a multiple
regression program (refer to Appendix B) was used. The
purposes of regression analysis are:

- 1. The first purpose of regression analysis is to provide estimates of values of the dependent variable from values of the independent variable.
- 2. A second goal of regression analysis is to obtain a measure of the error involved in using the regression line as a basis for estimation. For this purpose the "standard error of the estimate" or its square, the "error variance around the regression line" are calculated [6:464-65].

Simple Linear Regression Model - Type I

The first model to be discussed is the simple linear regression model with no transformations. The calculated data were entered as variables into the linear regression program (see Appendix B). The result was the following basic model:

Y = A + BX

where

Y = the calculated dependent variable (the difference in pilots evaluation results between the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period).

A = the regression constant = -0.51992.

B = the regression coefficient for X = .05610.

X = the independent variable (the difference in flying hours between the 1973 time period).

Thus Y = -0.51992 + .05610X

The results of the F test of the model were: F critical equaled 3.01 and F calculated equaled 2.1482. Because F critical was greater than F calculated the model was not considered to be statistically significant. Since the model was not statistically significant further tests on the significance of the coefficient were not performed. The coefficient of determination (R^2) was .1066.

Transformation

The above model dealt with a linear model. There are many other models in which Y may depend on X. These other forms are usually nonlinear in nature. The problem that faces the researchers is deciding on which nonlinear form to apply. It is important to realize that the type of nonlinear form evaluated may depend on the experience of the researchers and the type of function being analyzed.

In developing transformations, the CURFIT program (see Appendix C) was used extensively. The CURFIT program allows the user to input the values for the dependent and independent variables. Once the values are entered, the program calculates the curves (functions) that best fit the supplied data. The type of functions that may be fitted are linear, power, hyperbolic, and exponential.

The model that held the greatest promise was a hyperbolic function. The result was the following basic model:

$$Y = A + \frac{B}{X}$$

where Y = the calculated dependent variable (the difference in pilot evaluation results between the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period).

A = the regression constant = -.2353.

B = the regression coefficient for X = 8.3333.

x = the independent variable (the difference in flying hours between the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period).

Thus $Y = -.2353 + \frac{8.3333}{X}$.

The coefficient of determination was .2253 which was a considerable improvement over the linear model.

This improvement, however, was not considered enough to justify the hyperbolic model as a statistically significant model.

Simple Linear Regression Model - Type II

In order to determine a more direct relationship between flying hours and proficiency (as measured by the percentage unqualified) it was necessary to establish a basic standard of flying hours. This would allow the researchers to use regression analysis to determine if there was a positive relationship between the independent variable, flying hours, and the dependent variable, proficiency.

To determine the basic standard, the unit equipment (UE) factor was used. Unit equipment is defined as
"... the equipment prescribed by the Table of Organization and Equipment, or national equivalents pertaining to
that unit [25:202]." The unit's aircraft and support
equipment are considered to be unit equipment. AFM 172-3,
USAF Planning Factors, classified, contains the ratios for

aircrew to aircraft manning and aircrew compositions which are used to approve manpower spaces for aircrew positions.

The aircrew manpower requirements are determined on an individual basis after analysis of the following factors:

- 1. Flying hours available on the aircraft to maintain proficiency of the aircrews.
 - 2. Aircrew working hours per month.
- 3. Other factors, i.e., temperary duty, dispersed operating base requirements.

For crew ratio, it is the number of fully qualified or combat ready crews required that is determined (16:31XXC-1,2). The following table indicates the unit equipment and crew ratio for the KC-135 type aircraft (16:31XXC-8).

TABLE 5

KC-135 OPERATIONS MANPOWER STANDARDS

Type Aircraft/Unit	Position
KC-135	Pilots
UE-15	
CR - 1.5	46
UE-10	
CR - 1.5	30
UE-20	
CR - 1.5	60

It was decided that the UE factor rather than the number of pilot positions would be the basic standard; that is, flying hours per UE. While it is true that flying hours per pilot would be optimal, the difficulty of obtaining exact figures plus the constant turnover of personnel eliminated consideration of flying hours per pilot.

The plan for the structuring of the data for analysis and testing was as follows. The UE factors for all of the units in 8th and 15th Air Forces for the two time periods were obtained. The sample data collected were then identified by the dependent and independent variables. After the sample was selected, the variables were grouped as shown in Table 6. The grouped data in Table 6 are defined as follows:

- 1. Column 1. The sample Y_{Bi} data are the dependent variables. The data represented the sample pilots' evaluation results (percentage unqualified) for the period January through June, 1973.
- 2. Column 2. The sample YAi data are the dependent variables. This data represented the sample pilots' evaluation results (percentage unqualified) for the period January through June, 1974.
- 3. Column 3. The sample X_{Bi} data represented the flying hours per unit for the period January through June, 1973.
- 4. Column 4. The sample X_{Ai} represented the flying hours per unit for the period January through June, 1974.

TABLE 6

GROUPING OF SAMPLE DATA FOR REGRESSION ANALYSIS USING UE FACTOR

Independent Variable	x _{Bi} x _{Ai} UE _i X _{Bi} X _{Ai} UE _i UE _i UE _i	(3) (4) (5) (6) $(7)^3$	x _{B1} x _{A1} UE ₁ X _{BUE1} X _{AUE1}	X _{B2} X _{A2} UE ₂ X _{BUE2} X _{AUE2}	• • • •	x _{Bi ABi UE_i X_{BUE_i X_{AUE_i}}}
Dependent Variable	$\mathbf{r_{Bi}}$ $\mathbf{r_{Ai}}$	(1) (2)	Y _{B1} Y _{A1}	Y _{B2} Y _{A2}		Y _{Bi} Y _{Ai}

- 5. Column 5. The \mathbf{U}_{Ei} is the unit equipment factor for each respective unit.
- 6. Column 6. The X_{BUE1} data are the independent variables. This data represented the average flying hours per UE for the periods January through June, 1973.
- 7. Column 7. The X_{AUEi} data are the independent variables. This data represented the average flying hours per UE for the period January through June, 1974.

The same linear regression program (see Appendix B) was used. The data were put into the program and the following was the result:

Y = A + BX

where

- y " the calculated dependent variable (the percent unqualified in pilot evaluation results for the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period).
- A = the regression constant = 2.3468.
- B = the regression coefficient for X = .0194.
- X = the independent variable (the average flying hours per UE for the 1973 time period and the 1974 time period).

Thus,

Y = 2.3468 + .0194X.

The results of the F test indicated that the model

was not statistically significant. In fact the model had a smaller coefficient of determination than the other simple linear regression model. The models that were determined from CURFIT, using the average flying hours per UE as the independent variable, were also not statistically significant with the hyperbolic function showing the highest coefficient of determination as .03759.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

The research hypothesis tested was:

The proficiency of KC-135 pilots will exhibit a difference when flying hours are decreased as evidenced by differences in flying evaluation ratings.

The test results (see Chapter III) did not support this hypothesis; thus the study could not statistically conclude that the proficiency of KC-135A/Q pilots from 8th and 15th Air Forces did exhibit a difference when flying hours were decreased as evidenced by differences in flying evaluations.

Theoretically, the actual number of hours flown by pilots should affect their flying proficiency.

Additionally, it is presumed that a continuous curve should exist which would show a relationship between flying hours and flying proficiency. Also, it is presumed that this curve would have a positive slope; i.e., that an increase in flying time will increase proficiency up to a certain point. The objective of this research study was to attempt to establish the theoretical relationship between flying hours and flying proficiency in order to specifically describe this presumed continuous curve.

The results of the ratio of the change in flying proficiency to the change in flying hours, i.e., the slope of this curve, indicated that the slope was not significantly positive at the points of inspection. This result does not invalidate the theoretical relationship as described above. This study only infers to the effect of the change in flying hours on proficiency to the population which was considered, specifically to those KC-135A/Q units sampled from 8th and 15th Air Forces for the population periods January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974.

As was noted in the previous chapter, two separate tests were performed to evaluate the statistical significance of proficiency change. The Chi-Square contingency method evaluated proficiency non-parametrically. The paired comparison method evaluated proficiency parametrically. In neither case did the difference in proficiency between the two periods exhibit any statistical significance.

ship, if any, between flying hours and proficiency by formulating a model of proficiency as a function of flying hours. The primary statistical method which was used to perform this evaluation was regression analysis. The principal objective in using regression analysis was an attempt to establish a functional model useful for prediction and/or control. This objective did not assume that there was a "cause and effect" relationship between the

predictor (flying hours) and the predicted variable (proficiency); however, it did attempt to establish a model. The linear model, Y = A + BX, is based on the possible outcome that the two variables tended to move in such a fashion that the value of the dependent variable (Y = proficiency) could be accurately predicted from the value of the independent variable (X = flying hours).

In using the linear regression method described in the previous chapter, the coefficient of determination (R²) indicates the proportion of the total variation in the dependent variable (Y) which is explained by fitting the regression. R² is a dimensionless index and, from the results of this study, the value of R² indicated that the regression model (fitted to the values of proficiency and flying hours) did not explain the variation in proficiency with any statistical significance. In other words, no linear functional model could be determined from regression analysis which could statistically explain proficiency as a function of flying hours. As noted in Chapter III, regression analysis was performed using two different types of independent variables: 1) regression of percentage difference in proficiency (difference between the percent unqualified in the 1973 period and the percent unqualified in the 1974 period) against the percentage difference in unit flying hours (difference in flying hours for each unit between the 1973 period and the 1974 period); 2) regression of the proficiency for each unit for both the

1973 and 1974 periods (in terms of percentage unqualified for each unit for each of the two periods) against the average flying hours per UE for both the 1973 and 1974 periods.

Since no linear relationship could be statistically validated, this study proceeded to analyze the data in terms of several other functional forms by the use of a CURFIT program. The results of this evaluation (see Chapter III) could not establish, with any statistical significance, any relationship between the variables.

As a result of evaluating the research hypothesis, the following conclusions have been derived by the researchers:

1. The KC-135A/Q unit flying hour decrease (a decrease between the periods January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974) did not have any statistically significant effect on the proficiency of the KC-135A/Q pilots as evidenced by differences in flying evaluation ratings (difference between the periods January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974).

The researchers conject that the periods which were used might not have been long enough to totally include the effects of flying hour decreases. The researchers also conject that, based on a reduced flying hour program, more effort might have been placed by the operations' managers on the allotted flying time, thus resulting in

a more efficient use of a reduced resource. These are possible reasons for conclusion 1 which warrant consideration.

2. There was no statistically significant functional relationship between the KC-135A/Q unit flying hour decrease (the decrease between the periods January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974) and the proficiency of the KC-135A/Q pilots as evidenced by differences in flying evaluation ratings (difference between the periods January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974).

The researchers conject that the sample number of units evaluated might not have been sufficiently large to statistically determine a functional model which could display the relationship. Also, the researchers conject that the periods which were used might have been too small.

3. There was no statistically significant functional relationship between the average flying hours per UE (KC-135A/Q UE) for each unit and the proficiency for each unit (percentage unqualified on flying evaluations) for both periods (January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974).

The researchers performed this analysis in order to attempt to find a more direct relationship between pilot flying hours and pilot proficiency. The difficulty

in acquiring flying hour data for individual pilots was noted in a previous section of this study. The most direct data obtainable, therefore, was average flying hours per UE.

The researchers conject that the sample number of units evaluated might not have been large enough. Also, the results noted in Chapter III indicate that an analysis of longer time periods, both before and after the reductions in flying hours, might produce a more significant relationship.

Based on these conclusions and on the researchers' evaluations, recommendations have been derived and are presented in the following section.

Recommendations

A. A study should be conducted to evaluate the effects of flying hour differences on proficiency for the KC-135 for longer time periods. The periods used in this research (January through June, 1973 and January through June, 1974) were selected in order to capture the "effects" of reductions in flying hours resulting from the fuel conservation programs initiated in the fall period of 1973. However, the researchers assume that a possible time-lag element might have affected the results. A longer period of time might reduce the variability which could exist around the theoretical distribution of the variables. Further studies might determine a more accurate time span for which this type of research should follow.

- B. A study should be conducted to evaluate a feasible and accurate method of determining individual pilot flying hour changes over time. As was noted in Chapter III, due to the stochastic nature of quantifying pilots assigned to individual units for specific time periods, this level of analysis was not used in this research study. However, if a technique or methodology were developed to measure individual pilot flying hour changes over time, this could offer a more accurate tool with which to analyze the relationship, if any, between flying hours and proficiency.
- C. Studies should be conducted to evaluate pilot proficiency/training programs in relation to significant changes in flying hours. The proficiency/training specifically refers to non-student-pilot flying and ground experience; i.e., the routine programs designed to assure a specific level of proficiency. The objective of such a study would be to determine if any significant change to such programs have occurred simultaneously with significant changes in flying hours. This study should parallel the research conducted for this thesis using the same population and periods which might provide some valid explanations for this thesis' findings.
- D. Studies should be conducted to evaluate the effects of flying hour changes on proficiency for other types of aircraft to include such commands as Military

Airlift Command and Tactical Air Command. These studies should consider those proposals from recommendations A, B, and C. Further research could provide new findings, improved techniques, or a more thorough analysis of the topic presented in this study.

This research study has attempted to establish a methodology to evaluate the relationship between flying hours and proficiency. The study, although devoted to one aircraft type and one major air command, could be used to generate future studies on other types of aircraft, and therefore extend the analysis to the effects of flying time on proficiency throughout the Air Force. The effect of the "energy crisis" (reduction in fuel availability) was a causative factor for this research effort. However, irrespective of the future status of energy resources, specifically, aviation fuel, research to evaluate and analyze the effects of flying hours on proficiency would be justifiable in light of the continuing need to seek more efficient and effective utilization of our resources. This continuing requirement includes both the management of operations, which utilize the resources, and the management of the logistics systems which supply the resources. It is the hope of the researchers that this study would make some contribut in to these continuing goals.

APPENDIX A

LISTING OF UNITS SELECTED FOR STUDY

8th AIR FÓRCE UNITS	15TH AIR FORCE UNITS
Altus AFB	Beale AFB
11 ARS	9 ARS
Barksdale AFB	903 ARS
71 ARS	Dyess AFB
913 ARS	917 ARS
Blytheville AFB	Ellsworth AFB
97 ARS	28 ARS
Carswell AFB	Fairchild AFB
7 ARS	43 ARS
Griffiss AFB	92 ARS
41 ARS	Grand Forks AFB
Grissom AFB	905 ARS
70 ARS	March AFB
305 ARS	22 ARS
Kincheloe AFB	Mather AFB
908 ARS	904 ARS
K.I. Sawyer AFB	Minot AFB
46 ARS	
	906 ARS Travis AFB
Loring AFB 42 ARS	
42 ARS 407 ARS	916 ARS
McConnell AFB	
91 ARS	
384 ARS	
Pease AFB	
34 ARS	
509 ARS	
Plattsburgh AFB	
310 ARS	
380 ARS	
Rickenbacker AFB	
32 ARS	
301 ARS	
Robins AFB	
912 ARS	
Seymour-Johnson AFB	
911 ARS	
Wright-Patterson AFB	
922 ARS	
Wurtsmith AFB	
920 ARS	

APPENDIX B
LISTING OF REGRESSION PROGRAM

10 CHARACTER ZIP*2

30 DIMENSION X(100,10), XT(10,100), Y(100,1), YT(1,100)

50 DIMENSION G(10,1),B(10,1),BT(1,10)

70 DIMENSION ST(100,20), IND(10), IDUM(10)

90 DOUBLE PRECISION HOLD(10,20), XX, XXX

110 REAL MSE.MSR

130 PRINT." ***** **** REGRESSION ANALYSIS *********

150 10 PRINT, "INPUT # OF OBSERVATIONS AND # OF VARIABLES"

170 READ. JROW. JCOL

190 PRINT, "INPUT DATA (INCLUDING Y), I OBSERVATION AT A TIME"

210 DO 20 J=1, JROW

230 READ. (ST(J,K),K=1,JC()L)

250 20 CONTINUE

270 PRINT 410

290 DO 21 J=1, JROW

310 21 PRINT 400, (ST(J,K),K=1,JCOL)

330 PRINT." "

350 PRINT, "ARE THERE ANY EPRORS IN THE INPUT? (YES/NO)"

370 22 READ, ZIP

390 IF(ZIP.EQ."NO") GO TO 23

410 PRINT, "GIVE ME ROW, COL, AND CORRECTION"

430 READ, M, N, ERR

450 ST(M,N)=ERR

470 PRINT 400, (ST(M, J), J=1, JCOL)

490 PRINT, "MORE? (YES OR NO)"

510 GO TO 22

530 23 PRINT, "WHAT IS THE INDEX OF THE DEPENDENT VAR (Y)?"

550 READ, JY

570 DO 999 I=1.JROW

590 999 CONTINUE

610 PRINT, "GIVE THE NO. OF X'S AND A LIST OF THEIR INDICES"

630 READ, JCOL, (IND(J), J=1, JCOL)

650 DO 26 I=1.JROW

670 Y(I,I) = ST(I,JY)

690 X(I,1)=1.

710 DO 26 J=1.JCOL

730 JJ=IND(J)

750 26 X(I,J+1)=ST(I,JJ)

770 JC()L=JC()L+1

790 DO 30 K=1.JROW

810 DO 30 J=1, JCOL

830 30 XT(J,K) = X(K,J)

 $850 \qquad XX = 0$

870 DO 70 J=1, JCOL

890 DO 60 L=1, JCOL

910 DO 50 K=1. JROW

93% 5% $XX = XX + XT(J_*K) * X(K_*L)$

950 $HOLD(J_L) = XX$

 $970 \qquad XX = 0$

990 60 CONTINUE

1010 70 CONTINUE

1030 K = JC()L + 1

1050 L = JC()L + 2

1070 N = K - 1

```
1090 DO 100 K=1. JCOL
```

113. 90 HOLD(M,J) =
$$\emptyset$$

$$1150 N = N + 1$$

$$1210 \qquad XX = HOFD(K^*K)$$

$$1330 \ 130 \ XXX = HOLD(J,K)$$

1370 149
$$EOLD(J,M) = HOLD(J,M) - XXX * HOLD(K,M)$$

1390 150 CONTINUE

1410 160 CONTINUE

$$1430 KK = JCOL + 1$$

1450 PRINT 340

1510 170 CONTINUE

1590 180
$$XX = XX + XT(J_*K) * Y(K_*I)$$

$$1610 \qquad G(J_*1) = XX$$

1630 XX = 0

1650 190 CONTINUE

1670 L = JC0L + 1

 $1690 \qquad LL = JC()L + 2$

1710 DO 210 J=1, JCOL

1730 M = 1

1750 DO 200 K=L, LL

1770 XX = XX + G(M,1) + HOLD(J,K)

 $1790\ 200\ M = M + 1$

 $1810 \qquad B(J,1) = XX$

 $1830 \qquad XX = \emptyset$

1850 210 CONTINUE

1870 DO 220 J=1, JRON

 $1890 \ 220 \text{YT}(!, J) = \text{Y}(J, I)$

1910 DO 230 J=1, JROW

1930 230XX = XX + YT(1, J) *Y(J, 1)

1950 YY=XX

1970 XX=0

1990 DO 240 J=1, JCOL

2010 240BT(1,J)=B(J,1)

21 30 DO 250 J=1, JCOL

2050 250XX=XX+BT(1,J)*G(J,1)

2070 22=0

2090 DO 255 J=1, JROW

2110 255 ZZ=ZZ+Y(J,1)

2130 R=JROW

2150 ZZ=(ZZ*ZZ)/R

2170 SST=YY-ZZ

2190 SSR=XX-ZZ

2210 SSE=YY-XX

2230 RR=(XX-ZZ)/(YY-ZZ)

2250 PRINT 460. RR

2270 IR=JCOL-1

2290 IX=JROW-JCOL

2310 S2=SSE/IX

2330 PRINT 290, SORT(S2)

2350 PRINT." "

2370 PRINT," ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE TABLE "

2390 PRINT," SOURCE VAR(SS) DF MEAN SQUARE F"

2410 MSR=SSR/IR

2430 MSE=SSE/IX

2450 F=MSR/MSE

2470 PRINT 603, SSR, IR, MSR, F

2490 PRINT 604. SSE, IX, MSE

2510 PRINT 605, SST. JROW-1

2530 PRINT." "

2550 IDU4(1)=0

2570 DO 264 I=1, JCOL

2590 264 IDUM(I+1)=IND(I)

2612 N=3

2630 PRINT, "VARIABLE COEFFICIENT STD ERROR T RATIO"

2650 DO 265 K=L.LL

2670 N=N+1

2690 XX=SORT(S2) *SORT(HOLD(N,K))

2710 265 PRINT 490.IDUM(N).B(N,1),XX.B(N,1)/XX

2730 PRINT," "

2750 GO TO 500

277Ø 260PRINT 270

2790 500 PRINT, "CHANGE VARIABLE LIST? N/SAME DATA (YES/NO)"

2310 READ, ZIP

2830 IF(ZIP .EC. "NO") GO TO 505

285Ø GO TC 23

2870 505 PRINT. "ANOTHER PROBLEM W/ NEW DATA? (YES/NO)"

2890 READ, ZIP

2910 IF(ZIP.EQ."NO") GO TO 510

293Ø GO TO 1Ø

2950 510 STOP

2970 270 FORMAT(1H .23H**** NO SOLUTION *****)

2990 280 FORMAT (1H1)

3010 290 FORMAT(IH . "STD ERROR OF THE ESTIMATE, S:",F20.7)

3030 300 FORMAT(IH .10F12.5)

3050 310 FORMAT(F12.5)

3070 340 FORMAT(1H1.19HINVERTED MATRIX (C))

3090 350 FORMAT(10F10.5)

3110 380 FORMAT(F12.5)

3130 400 FORMAT(1H .10F12.5)

3150 410 FORMAT(1H0,"DATA MATRIX")

3170 420 FORMAT(215)

3190 460 FORMAT(1HU, "COEF OF DETERMINATION (R**2):",F10.7)

3210 470 FORMAT(1H ,13HF(P-1),(N-P)=,F13.5)

3230 480 FORMAT(/)

3250 490 FORMAT(IH ,6X, 12, 3F13.5)

3270 603 FORMAT(1H ." EXPLAINED", F15.6, 15, 2F15.6)

3290 604 FORMAT(1H ," ERROR",F15.6,I5,F15.6)

3310 605 FORMAT(1H ." TOTAL",F15.6,I5)

3330 END

APPENDIX C
LISTING OF CURFIT PROGRAM

3REM C U R F I T

700DATA1E38,1E38

701 DATAB, Ø

702 REM

703PRINT

734READP

705DIMX(200),Y(200),U(200),V(200),A(6),B(6),C(6),S(6),F(6)

7061FP=1E38THEN911

707FORX=1T06

738LETF(X)=1

709NEXTK

710RESTORE

711PRINT

712PRINT"SPECIFY THE NUMBER OF VALUES (N) GIVEN AS DATA"

713PRINT"FOR BOTH INPUT VARIABLES, AND OUTPUT CODE (D)."

714PRINT" (D=1 IF OUTPUT IS IN ORDER OF INCREASING VALUES"

715PRINT"OF THE INDEPENDENT VARIABLE, ELSE D=0). N.D = ";

716INPUTN.D

717PRINT

718FORI=1TON

719READY(I)

720HEXTI

721FORI=ITON

722READX(I)

723NEXTI

724READX.Y

725 IF X < 1E38 THEN 916

726 IF Y < 1E38 THEN 916

727PRINT

729PRINT

730 PRINT " LEAST SQUARES CURVE FIT"

731 PRINT

732 PRINT"CURVE TYPE"," INDEX OF"," A"," B"

733PRINT" ", "DETERMINATION"

734PHINT

735F0RI=1T06

736FORI1=1T06

737LETS(11)=0

738NEXT11

739G0SUB344

7401F(I-5)*(I-6)=0THEN755

 $741 \text{ IF} (I-2)*(I-3) = \emptyset \text{ TFEN } 748$

742F0RJ=1T0H

743LETV(J)=Y(J)

744G0SUBB22

745NEXTJ

746 IF I=1THEN 765

747G0T0776

748FORJ=1TON

749 IFY(J) <=0THEN762

750LETV(J) = LOG(Y(J))

751G0SU3822

752NEXTJ

7531F1=3THEN770

754G0T0765

755FORJ=1TON

756 IFY(J) = JTHEN 762

757LETV(J)=1/Y(J)

758G0SU3822

759NEXTJ

7601FI=6THEN 776

761G0T0765

762PRINT"CAN'T FIT"

763LETF(I)=1

764G0T0783

765FORJ=1TON

766LETU(J)=X(J)

767G0SUB325

763NEXTJ

769G0T0791

770FORJ=1TON

771 IFX(J) <= 5THE1762

772LETU(J)=LOG(U(J))

773G0SUB325

774NEXTJ

775G0T0781

776F0RJ=1T0II

7771FX(J)=0THEN762

778LETU(J)=1/X(J)

779G0SUB825

780NEXTJ

781G0SUB386

732PRINTC(I), A(I).B(I)

783NEXTI

784 IFD<>1THEN786

785G0SUB329

786PRINT

787PRINT

788PRINT

789PSINT"DETAILS FOR" #

791INPUTI

791 LETK=I

792LETD1=D

793PRINT

794 IFF (I) = 1THEN 798

795G0SUB344

796PRINT" COULD NOT BE FIT."

797G0T0736

793G0SU3362

799IF(I-1)*(I-5)*(I-6)<>0THEN810

879FORJ=1TON

801LETY=A(I)+B(I)*X(J)

802IFI=ITHEN306

303LETY=1/Y

804 IFI=5THENB06

805LETY=X(J) *Y

806G0SUB901

807NEXTJ

898LETU=D1

809G0T0786

810FORJ=1TOH

811 IFI=2THEN817

812IFI=3THEN315

813LETY = A(4) + B(4) / X(J)

814G0T0318

 $815LETY=A(3)*(X(J)^E(3))$

8160T0818

817LETY=A(2)*EXP(B(2)*X(J))

818G0SU3941

819NEXTJ

820LETD=D1

321G0T0786

822LETS(5)=5(5)+V(J)^2

823LETS(3)=S(3)+V(J)

324RETURN

825LETS(1)=S(1)+U(J)

826LETS(2)=S(2)+U(J)^2

827LETS(4)=S(4)+U(J)*V(J)

823RETURN

829F0RI=1T04-1

830LETM=I

831FORJ=I+1TON

8321FX('4) <=X(J)THEN834

833LET#=J

834NEXTJ

835 IF 1/= ITHEN 842

836LETP=X(M)

837LETQ=Y(M)

838LETX(4)=X(1)

839LETY(M)=Y(I)

840LETX(I)=P

841LETY(I)=0

842NEXTI

843RETURN

844LETK=I

845 IFK=1THEN860

8461FK=2THEN858

847 IFK=3THEN856

848 IFK=4THEN854

849 IFK=5THEN852

850PRINT"6. Y=X/(A+B*X) "1

851 RETURN

852PRINT"5. Y=1/(A+E*X) "1

853RETURN

854PRINT"4. Y=A+(E/X)",

855RETURN

856PRINT"3. Y=A*(X^b)".

857RETURN

858PRINT"2. Y=A*EXP(B*X)";

859RETURN

860PRINT"1. Y=A+(5*X)".

861 RETURN

862PRINT" " #

863G0SUB845

864PRINT" 15 A" 1

865 IFK=1THEN370

866 IFK=2THE1972

8671FK=3THEN874

868PRINT" HYPERBOLIC" +

869G0T0375

879PRINT" LINEAR" +

871G0T0875

872PRINT"N EXPONENTIAL" +

873G0T0875

874PRINT" POWER":

875PRINT" FUNCTION. THE RESULTS"

8761FK=1THEN878

877PRINT" OF A LEAST-SQUARES FIT OF ITS LIN. TRANSFORM"

878 IFD<>1THEN884

879PRINT" (SORTED IN ORDER OF ASCENDING VALUES OF X)"

884PRINT" ARE AS FOLLONS:"

TAIRS188

882 PRINT " X-ACTUAL Y-ACTUAL YCALC PCT DIFFER"

883PRINT

884RETURN

835PRINT

8H6LETB=(N*S(4)-S(1)*S(3))/(N*S(2)-(S(1)^2))

837LETA=(S(3)-B*S(1))/N

888LETS1=S(5)-(S(3)^2)/N

889LETS2=(B^2)*(S(2)-(S(1)^2)/N)

890LETC(1)=52/S1

891 IF(I-1)*(I-4)*(I-5)=@THEN998

892IF(I-2)*(I-3)=0THEN896

893LETA(6)=8

894LETB(6)=A

895RETURN

896LETA(I)=EXP(A)

897GOTO399

893LETA(I)=A

899LETH(I)=B

900RETURN

901PRINTX(J),Y(J),Y.

902LETD=Y(J)-Y

903LETD=.1*SGN(D)*INT(1000*ABS(D/Y))

994 IFD<0THEN909

9051FD>0THEN908

906PRINT"

0"

907RETURN

908PRINT"

11 \$

GINIRAGING

9 I WRETURN

911 PRINT

912 PRINT"LIST FILE 'STADES' FROM LIBRARY FOR INSTRUCTIONS"

913 PRINT"---"

914 PRINT

915 STOP

916 PRINT 917 PRINT"CHECK INPUT" 9999 END

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